

Finance & Keno Meeting

August 3, 2021

The Finance & Keno Committee of the City of Fairbury met on August 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Offices located at 612 D Street, Fairbury, Nebraska.

Roll call found the following committee members present: Tim Polson, Doug Brown, and Brian Schmidt. Also in attendance was City Administrator Robert Messbarger. Kelly Davis was absent.

Polson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted near the entry of the meeting room. Schmidt moved to convene. Motion seconded by Brown. Polson, Brown, and Schmidt voting "yes". Motion carried.

Brown moved to approve the Finance/Keno Committee minutes from the April 1, 2020 meeting. Motion seconded by Schmidt. Polson, Brown, and Schmidt voting "yes". Motion carried.

Business item, "Consider FY 2021-2022 Budget" was introduced by Administrator Messbarger. Messbarger reviewed the preliminary FY 2021-2022 General Fund Budget with the Finance & Keno Committee. Overall, the FY 2021-2022 budget is mostly flat to last year. The sales tax estimate was left flat due to the unknown impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The General Fund will receive two transfers from the Light Department in the sizes of \$250,000 and \$100,000. The General Fund will also receive a transfer from the Water Department of \$25,000. The \$100,000 and \$25,000 transfer will go to the Street Department for street lights. The \$250,000 transfer was proposed to be allocated as follows: \$150,000 for demolition, \$20,000 for economic development, and \$80,000 for park improvement and development.

The proposed budget accounted for the law enforcement contract increase of 3% annually as well as debt service obligations. Additional expected expenditures include salary increases of 3%, a 15% increase in health insurance premiums, and a 10% increase in fuel costs. The projects of the Community Building (\$34,000), Tipper Trash Cans (\$100,000), and a dump truck for the Streets Department (\$80,000), which were allocated for in the 2020-2021 budget, will be carried over to the 2021-2022 budget as they had not been completed.

A major expected expense during the 2021-2022 budget is a new street sweeper for the Streets Department. Different options were discussed including exploring lease-purchase financing while interest rates remain favorable.

Funds from LB840 as well as Keno will continue to provide additional resources to aid in the beautification of the City and its parks. Additionally, the American Rescue Plan is expected to bring in \$320,879 in unbudgeted revenue; however, it is unknown exactly when these funds will be made available and there will be parameters on how the funds can be spent. A possible use of these funds was discussed as being the streets in the City Park.

The proposed budget recommends a conservative and methodical approach as the path forward in order to continually strengthen the City's fiscal health and improve the City's amenities.

Brown moved to recommend the City Council approve the FY 2021-2022 budget. Motion seconded by Schmidt. Brown, Polson, and Schmidt voting “yes”. Motion carried.

With no further business, Schmidt moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Polson. Brown, Polson, and Schmidt voting “yes”. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.